



Federal NextGen9-1-1 Reimbursement Grant – Round Two Grant Project Planning Guide



1. Introduction

The overall goal of the Federal NextGen9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Reimbursement Grant Program for Wisconsin is to assist local public safety answering points (PSAPs) with funding applicable equipment upgrades and replacements necessary for implementing NG9-1-1 capabilities (i.e. capable of interconnecting with an NG9-1-1 system, meeting industry standards such as NENA i3, and processing 9-1-1 calls via Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)). The State 9-1-1 Subcommittee has provided guidance to the Office of Emergency Communications on administering a second round of grant funding under this program.

2. Scope

Following the first round of grants, there is an estimated \$624k available for a second round of local PSAP grant projects. This document can be used as a guide for planning future grant projects under this next round. The exact timeline for the second round is unknown at this time but is anticipated to be released in the second half of 2020.

Please note that all funding under the federal grant program must be spent by March 2022 and there is a 40% non-federal match/cost share requirement. This is a reimbursement grant program so all approved grant projects must be paid using local funds and then will be reimbursed up to 60% of the total approved costs at the close out of the grant project.

3. Allowable Expenses & Estimated Costs for Planning

Based on guidance from the State 9-1-1 Subcommittee, the focus in the second round will continue to be the replacement and upgrade of local call handling equipment or customer premises equipment (CPE) necessary for NG9-1-1 implementation. Below is a list of eligible expenses and potential costs associated with those allowable items that can be used for planning a future grant application:

Proposed Eligible Expense	Average Estimated Costs
CPE Full Replacement or Upgrade * For small or medium PSAPs, prices vary based on size, and cost shown does not include hosted solution	\$122,000 - \$276,000*
i3 Logging Recorder	\$27,288
Mobile Answering Position – per answering position cost **Rough estimate, PSAPs should confirm cost with a vendor	\$20,000**

NOTE: These costs are rough estimates and should be used for planning purposes ONLY. Actual costs for each element may vary depending on the size of the PSAP, specific vendor providing services, final contracts, etc. Potential grant applicants should request vendor quotes for actual estimated costs for the purposes of planning and applying for this grant program.

4. Funding Priorities

In addition to the above allowable expenses, the following criteria will be a priority when evaluating grant applications in the second round of funding:

- Allowable expenses in order of priority: 1. Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) hardware and software full replacement or upgrade; 2. Logging recorders; 3. Mobile answering positions
- All equipment purchased must meet industry standards (e.g. NENA i3) and be capable of interconnecting with a NG9-1-1 system
- Preference will be given to applicants who did not receive funding in the first round of grants and those that have not upgraded their CPE equipment to be NG9-1-1 capable
- Joint applications with two or more agencies applying for a combined project for cost savings are encouraged



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5. Preparing for Round Two Funding Announcement

Although the exact timeline for releasing Round Two of funding is unknown at this time, potential grant applicants can anticipate a funding announcement to be released in 2020. In order to prepare for the funding announcement, agencies can begin to do the following:

- Start collecting vendor quotes for a potential project to begin estimating actual costs and how much funding would be needed to complete the project.
- Collect procurement documents and equipment technical specifications to begin planning for any competitive procurement or bids that may be necessary to purchase the equipment.
- Look at local budgeting but don't forget about possible supplanting!
 - Supplanting means to deliberately reduce state or local funds because of the existence of federal funds.
 - When agencies begin to budget for their grant project, ensure the budget documents clearly indicate the local funding has been set aside to apply for and supplement any grant funding that is awarded.
 - Keep in mind this is a reimbursement grant so all approved grant projects must be paid using local funds and then will be reimbursed up to 60% of the total approved costs at the close out of the grant project.
- Identify potential sources of funding to meet the 40% match/cost share requirement. Generally accepted funding sources for match include local government budget (e.g. tax levy, bond) and donated funds. Sources that CANNOT be used for the match amount include other federal grants and federal funds such as the Homeland Security Grant Program, and local funds already allocated as match on another federal grant.
- Meet with applicable governance bodies, county/municipal boards and councils that would need to approve any grant project or funding request. Ensure they are aware of the funding opportunity, the requirements, and would provide executive support for the grant project.

If you have additional questions related to the Federal NextGen9-1-1 Reimbursement Grant Program or NextGen9-1-1, please feel free to contact Jessica Jimenez at jessica.jimenez@wisconsin.gov or 608-888-5520.